ally, the pair of fingers **156***a*, **156***b* are off-set laterally from one another by an amount sufficient to not obstruct the operation or functionality of jaw assembly **110** and/or the visibility of jaw assembly **110** by the end user.

Proximal-end portion **152***a* of body portion **152** extends into handle assembly **102** by an amount sufficient to extend below and be in registration with slot **104***a* of housing **104**.

As seen in FIGS. **1**, **3** and **4**, dissector bar **150** has an overall length such that when dissector bar **150** is in a relatively proximal or proximal-most position, knob **154** is disposed at a location proximal of a distal-most end of slot **104***a* of housing **104**; and, as seen in FIGS. **5** and **6**, when dissector bar **150** is in a relatively distal-most position, knob **154** may be disposed at a relatively distal or distal-most end of slot **104***a* of housing **104**.

Additionally, as seen in FIGS. **1**, **3** and **4**, dissector bar **150** has an overall length such that when dissector bar **150** is in a relatively proximal or proximal-most position, the pair of fingers **156***a*, **156***b* of dissector **156** is disposed at a location proximal of a distal-most end of clip applier **100**, channel assembly **108** and/or jaws **120**; and, as seen in FIGS. **5** and **6**, when dissector bar **150** is in a relatively distal-most position, the pair of fingers **156***a*, **156***b* of dissector **156** is disposed to extend or project distally beyond distal-most end of clip applier **100**, channel assembly **108** and/or jaws **120**.

As seen in FIG. **6**, during a surgical procedure, if the user of clip applier **100** needs or desires to perform a dissection on an underlying tissue, the user advances body portion **152** of dissector bar **150** by advancing knob **154** distally, relative to handle assembly **104**, as indicated by arrows "A" of FIG. **5**, to distally advance and/or deploy dissector **156** distally beyond distal-most end of clip applier **100**, channel assembly **108** and/or jaws **120**. With dissector **156** so deployed, the user may perform any dissecting function, at the target surgical site, such as, for example, the function of separating of the organs or vessels "V" from the underlying or overlying tissue "T", connective tissue or the like, as seen in FIG. **6**.

As can be appreciated by one of skill in the art, the relative dimensions and/or lengths of slot **104***a* of housing **104**, of body portion **152** of dissector bar **150**, of the pair of arms **156***a*, **156***a* of dissector **156**, of channel assembly **108** and of jaw assembly **110** will determine the overall maximum projection of dissector **156** beyond distal-most end of clip applier **100**, channel assembly **108** and/or jaws **120**.

As seen in FIGS. **1** and **3-6**, clip applier **100** may include a strap **158** or the like, connected to outer channel **132** and extending across body portion **152** of dissector bar **150**. Strap **158** functions to help maintain body portion **152** of dissector bar **150** against the surface of or in relative close proximity to channel assembly **108**. While a strap has been shown and is described, it is envisioned that any structure capable of maintaining maintain body portion **152** of dissector bar **150** against the surface of or in relative close proximity to channel assembly **108** can be utilized, such as, for example, a peg extending through an elongate slot formed in the body portion of dissector bar and which is secured to channel assembly.

In accordance with an aspect of the present disclosure, it is contemplated that handle assembly **102** may include a rubber gasket **105** or other resilient, deformable material lining at least the sides of slot **104***a* of housing **104**. Gasket **105** may comprise an over-molding of resilient, deformable material extending along at least the sides of slot **104***a* of housing **104**. Gasket **105** narrows a width of slot **104***a* of housing **104** to have a width dimension that is less than a diameter or transverse width dimension of neck portion **154***b* of knob **154**. In this manner, dissector bar **150** is held against movement by a frictional force created by gasket **105** acting on neck portion **154***b* of knob **154**. The particular dimensions and tolerances of slot **104***a*, with gasket **105**, and neck portion **154***a* may be selected such that a force required to move knob **154** along slot **104***a* is relatively comfortable for an end user and sufficient to hold dissector bar **150** in place without the need for the end user to hold on to or exert a force on knob **154**.

Turning now to FIG. **7**, in an embodiment, it is contemplated that handle assembly **102** may include a rubber gasket **205** or other resilient, deformable material lining at least the sides of slot **104***a* of housing **104**. As seen in FIG. **7**, gasket **205** may be contoured to define a plurality of discrete ledges **205***a* along one side of slot **104***a* of housing **104** against which knob **154** may rest or be placed. In use, the end user, may move knob **154** axially along the length of slot **104***a*, to a desired location or deployment of dissector **156** and then place knob **154** onto a ledge **205***a* most closely in registration with the axial position of knob **154** in slot **104***a*.

Turning now to FIG. **8**, in yet another embodiment, it is contemplated that handle assembly **102** may include a rubber gasket **305** or other resilient, deformable material lining at least the opposed sides of slot **104***a* of housing **104**. As seen in FIG. **8**, gasket **305** may be contoured to define a plurality of discrete pockets **305***a* as defined by a series of axially spaced apart ridges **305***b* extending along a length of slot **104***a* of housing **104**. In use, as the end user moves knob **154** axially along the length of slot **104***a*, to a desired location or deployment of dissector **156**, knob **154** is moved passed ridges **305***b* and is held axially in place, in pocket **305***a*, by the ridges **305***a* that are distal and proximal of knob **154** and pocket **305***a*.

In an embodiment it is contemplated that a biasing element, such as, for example, a spring or the like, may be attached to dissector bar **150** and a feature of housing assembly **102** or channel assembly **108**, which biasing element functions to maintain dissector bar **150** in a proximal position.

It should be understood that the foregoing description is only illustrative of the present disclosure. Various alternatives and modifications can be devised by those skilled in the art without departing from the disclosure. Accordingly, the present disclosure is intended to embrace all such alternatives, modifications and variances. The embodiments described with reference to the attached drawing figures are presented only to demonstrate certain examples of the disclosure. Other elements, steps, methods and techniques that are insubstantially different from those described above and/or in the appended claims are also intended to be within the scope of the disclosure.

The invention claimed is:

1. A surgical clip applier for performing a surgical procedure, the surgical clip applier comprising:

a housing;

at least one handle pivotably connected to the housing;

a channel assembly extending distally from the housing;

a jaw assembly including a pair of jaws extending from an end of the channel assembly, opposite the housing, the jaw assembly adapted to accommodate a clip of a plurality of clips loaded in the clip applier and being operable to effect formation of the clip in response to movement of the at least one handle; and

a dissector bar supported on the housing and contacting an outer surface of the channel assembly, wherein the dissector bar is actuatable from the housing and includes a proximal position wherein a distal end of the dissector bar is disposed proximal of a distal-most end of the jaw assembly, and at least one distal position wherein the distal end of the dissector bar projects beyond the distal-most end of the jaw assembly.